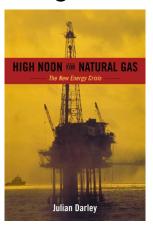
Natural Gas: Past, Present & Interesting Future

Southern California Energy Conference Los Angeles, CA 10th March 2006

Julian Darley
julian@postcarbon.org
Post Carbon Institute
http://www.postcarbon.org

Why write a book about natural gas?





Brief history of natural gas use in US

- 1821 first gas well, in Fredonia, NY 27ft deep
- Early industrial US street lamps & a few houses
- Pipelines networks in 1930s & 1950s demand increases
- Last 25 years much more deregulation
- 1990 EPA Clean Air Act Amendment
 - more gas, less coal gas is the 'cleanest' hydrocarbon



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US natural gas pipelines

- Natural gas service is delivered to over 60 million American homes through a 1.3-million-mile pipeline network. (http://www.atmosenergy.com/about/gas/index.html)
- Gas is hard to transport means it is a regional fuel



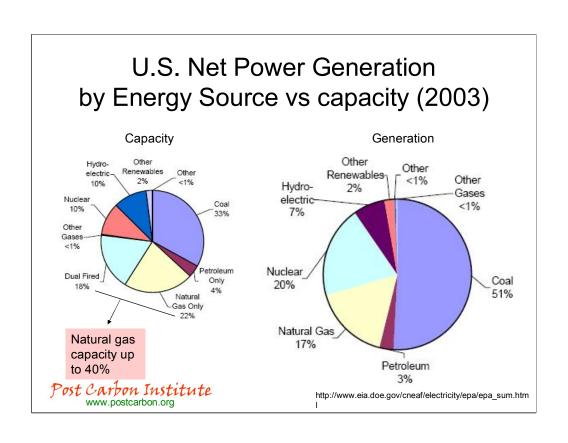
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http://www.platts.com/features/usgasguide/pipelinemap.shtml

America's Gas Dependence

- ~23% of primary energy
- ~60% American homes heat with gas
 - 70% of new homes (80% in Canada)
- Power generation gas-fired capacity ~40%
 - Actual power delivered by gas 17-18%
 - >220,000 Mw gas-fired capacity added in last 6 years
 - Hydro in trouble global warming?
 - Kyoto trouble for all fossil fuels, especially coal?





Why did demand increase so much? Natural gas is so useful...

- Very versatile fuel, especially for heating domestic and industry
- For power production can produce baseload and peaking – very controllable
- 80% of fertilizer price is natural gas
 - 45% of nitrogen fertilizer makers have shut down
- NG is feedstock for many other chemical processes
- · Natural gas now used everywhere
- Conclusion: NG is vital it's a matter of national security – must have more

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How much more?

Energy Hunger

- US Gas Consumption
 - Natural Gas ~ 50 60 billion cubic feet per day (~22 Tcf/yr)
 - US imports 15-17%
 - Most from Canada + 2% LNG
 - Oil >21 million barrels per day (7bnb/yr)
 - US imports ~60%, rising to 70-80% by 2025?
- World consumption
 - Oil ~84 mb/d (~31 bnb/yr)
 - Natural gas ~ 200 bcf/d (~80 Tcf/yr)

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But suddenly..

- Natural gas was in the limelight (for a while)
- "We start from the premise that we are in a natural-gas crisis." Mark Nelson, American Chemistry Council (May 28, 2003)

• "The game's over for U.S. gas supply, same with Canadian."

Marshall Adkins, Raymond James & Associates (April 29, 2003)

 "The natural gas crunch is so serious that it might complicate President Bush's 2004 reelection."

Laura Cohn, Business Week (June 16, 2003)



Official concern

- · Alan Greenspan testifies before Congress
 - "We are not apt to return to earlier periods of relative abundance and low prices anytime soon."
 House Energy and Commerce Committee (June 10th 2003)
 - "I'm quite surprised at how little attention the natural gas problem has been getting, because it is a very serious problem."
- (former) Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham calls for emergency Natural Gas Summit at National Petroleum Council (June 26th 2003)
 - to discuss short-term solutions. "A hot summer could increase demand for natural gas and exacerbate the problem,"
 Abraham says. "The challenge requires us to act today."



A Crisis Loomed

- Demand for natural gas rose to 22.6 Tcf (trillion cubic feet) in 2001
- But domestic supply couldn't keep up
 - 19.5Tcf in 2001
- Supply gap was over 3 Tcf & rising (or trying to)
- Expensive & difficult to import by sea needs long lead time to increase facilities
- In early new millennium gas supply suddenly began to fall



So What Happened To The Natural Gas Crisis?

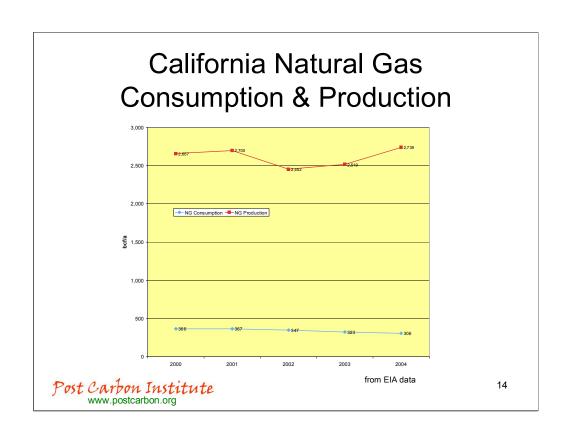
- Much higher prices
 - Leading to industrial 'demand destruction'
 - -Power generators went broke
- Weather
 - -Mild winters
 - Mild summers
- The rise of unconventional gas

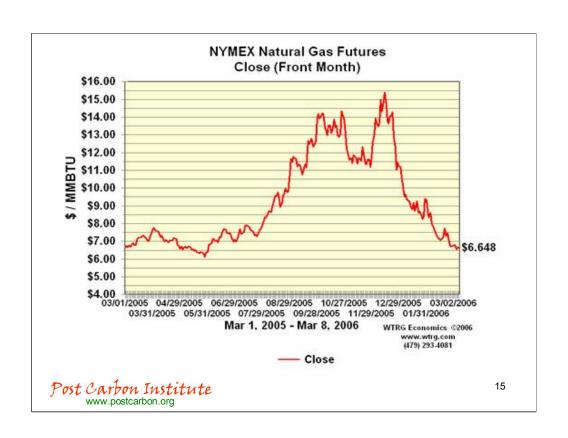
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Has The Natural Gas Crisis Gone Away?

- EIA shows some concern but tries to appear confident that new technology and investment will solve the problem – but some of their own graphs suggest that they are not that sure
- Energy banker Matt Simmons shows great concern and much less confidence in the offered solutions
- Who to believe?

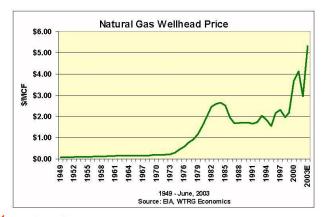
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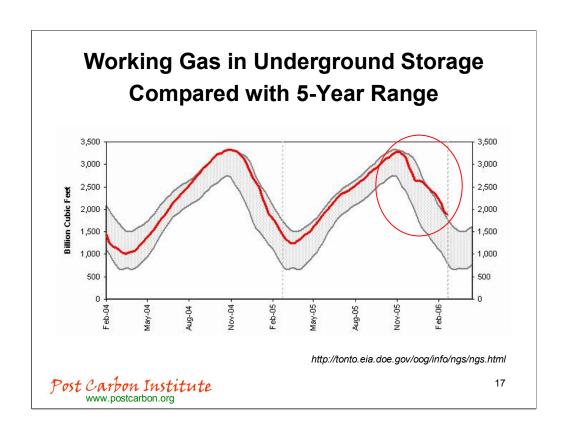


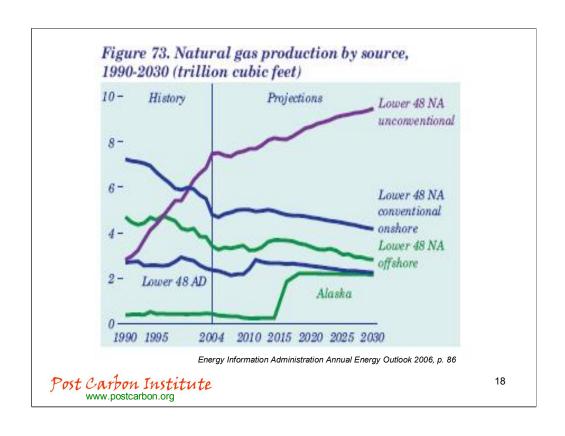
Gas used to be much cheaper

- 1 boe ~ 5.5 Mcf
 - with oil over \$15 bbl, gas was good value at ~\$2 Mcf



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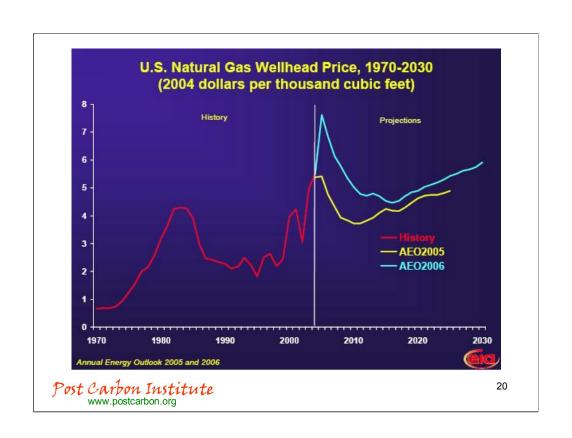
EIA Has Reassessed Its Long-Term Oil Price Projection

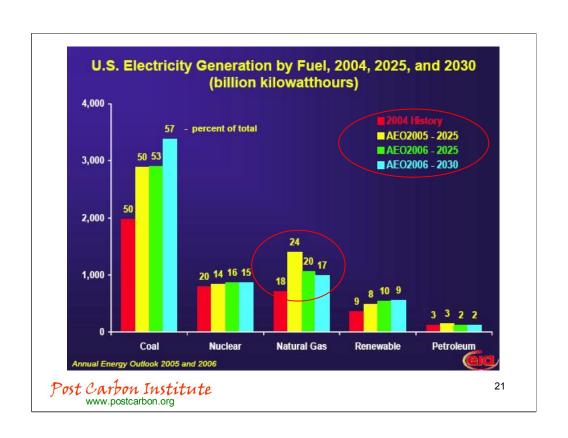
- Major oil-producing countries pace investment more consistent with higher oil price path
- Investment impediments more persistent, even after several years of relatively high oil prices
- · Cost of doing business increasing
- Not due to "Peak Oil" considerations, although we are following this issue closely

Guy Caruso, Administrator Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy http://www.ncseonline.org/NCSEconference/2006conference/cms.cfm?id=832



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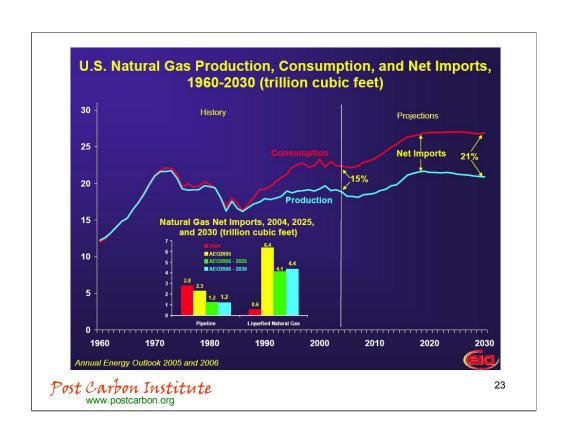


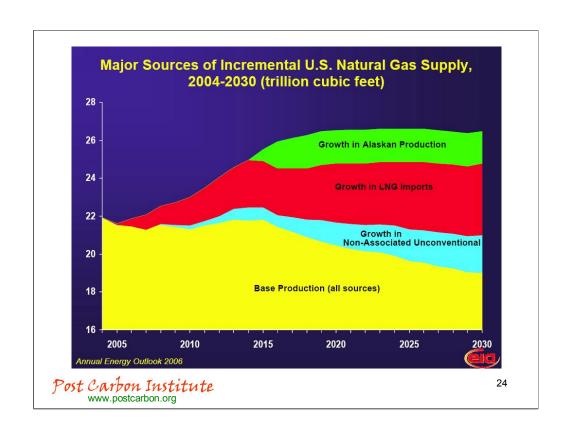
Annual Energy Outlook 2006 reference case indicates that through 2030....

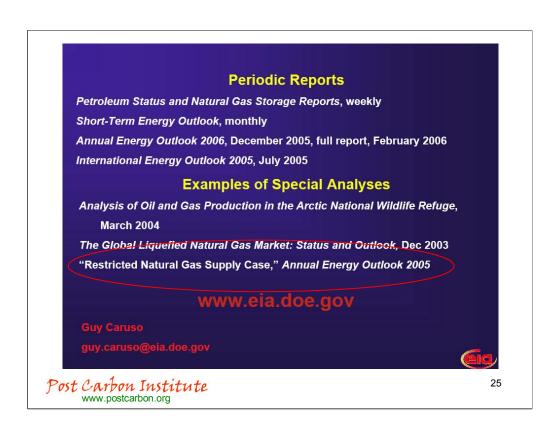
- U.S. energy demand is projected to grow at an average annual rate of 1.1 percent
- The energy efficiency of the economy is projected to increase at an average annual rate of 1.8 percent
- U.S. oil import reliance is projected to grow from 58 percent to 62 percent
- U.S. natural gas use is projected to peak around 2020
- Future growth in U.S. natural gas supplies depends on unconventional domestic production, natural gas from Alaska, and liquefied natural gas imports
- Carbon dioxide emissions are projected to grow at an average annual rate of 1.2 percent

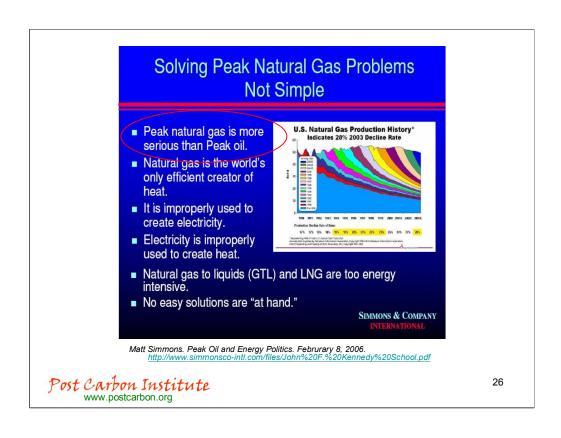


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Solving Peak Natural Gas Is Tough

- Natural gas is the only efficient source of instant heat.
- Premium natural gas also has low emissions.
- Natural gas should not be used to create:
 - Usable heavy oil
 - Electricity
- Until new heat source is invented, natural gas will be scarce.
- Natural gas is the world's most precious energy source.

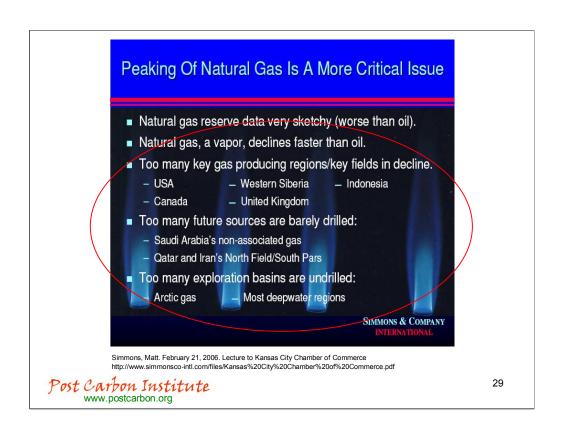
SIMMONS & COMPANY

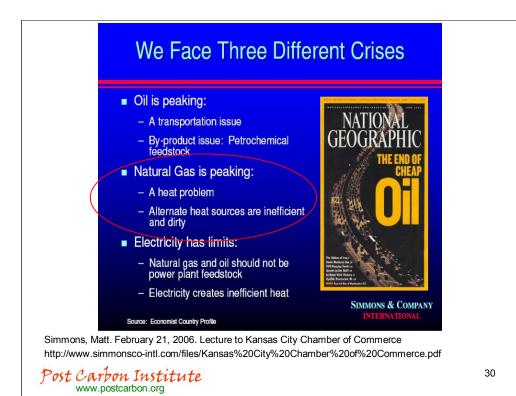
Source: Economist Country Profile

Simmons, Matt. February 21, 2006. Lecture to Kansas City Chamber of Commerce http://www.simmonsco-intl.com/files/Kansas%20City%20Chamber%20of%20Commerce.pdf

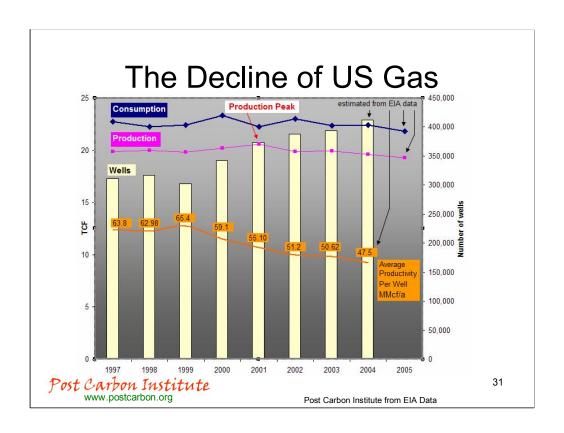




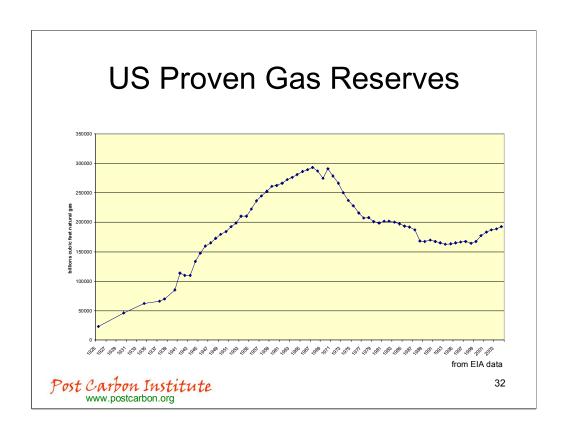


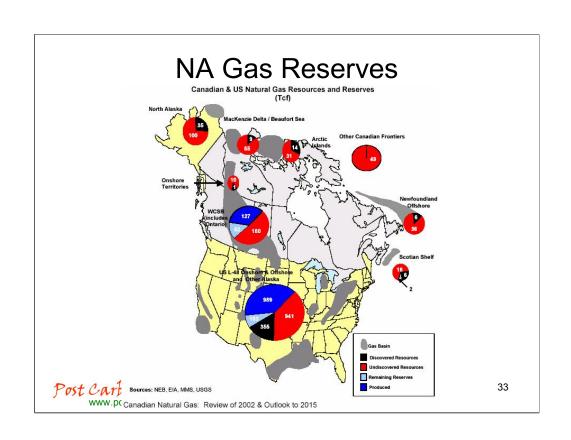


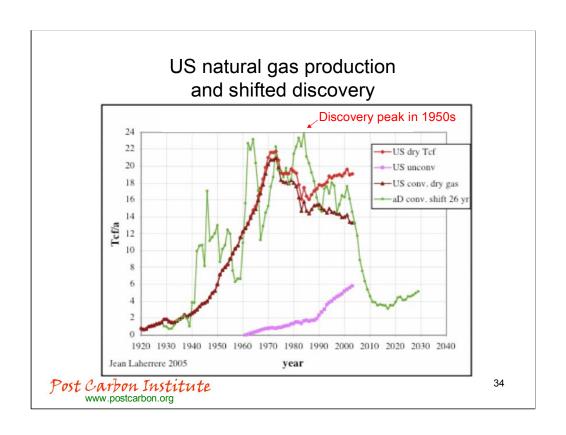
Simmons, Matt. February 21, 2006. Lecture to Kansas City Chamber of Commerce http://www.simmonsco-intl.com/files/Kansas%20City%20Chamber%20of%20Commerce.pdf



Well data from Number of Producing Gas and Gas Condensate Wells at http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/dnav/ng/ng_prod_wells_s1_a.htm







-Forecasting production from past discovery by shifting to best fit

In mature countries where there was little constraint on the demand production mimics discovery

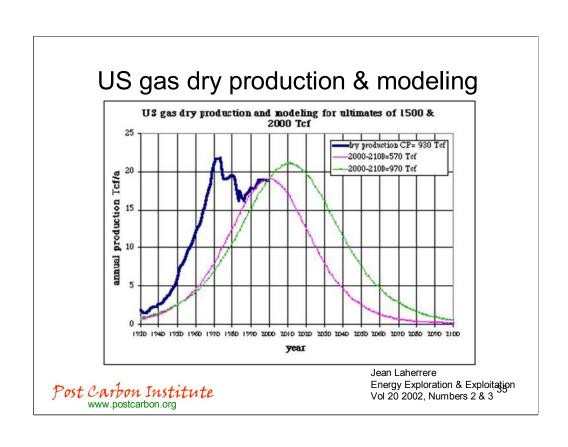
(mean values) with a certain shift and this shift provides a useful way of forecasting.

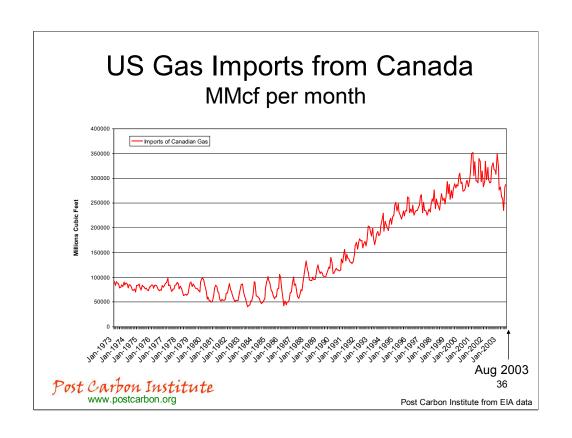
The shift of 26 years between US conventional natural gas production and discovery suggests a sharp

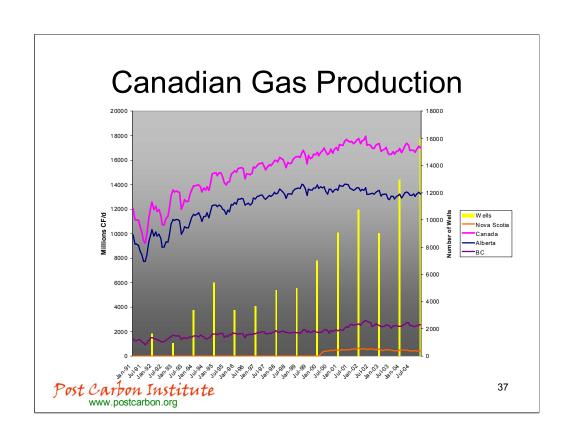
drop in future production as unconventional gas is forecasted to peak in few years by USDOE

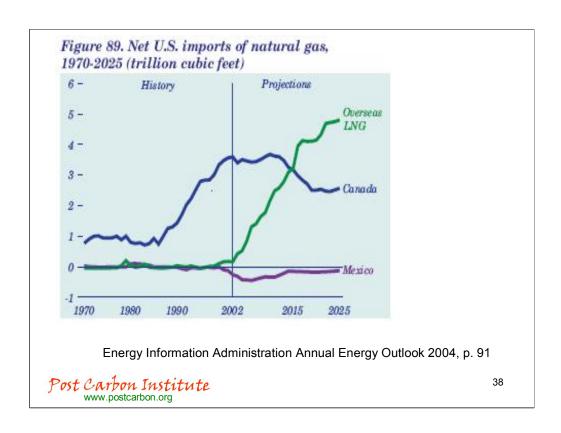
Figure 11: US conventional natural gas annual production and shifted discovery forecasting a drastic

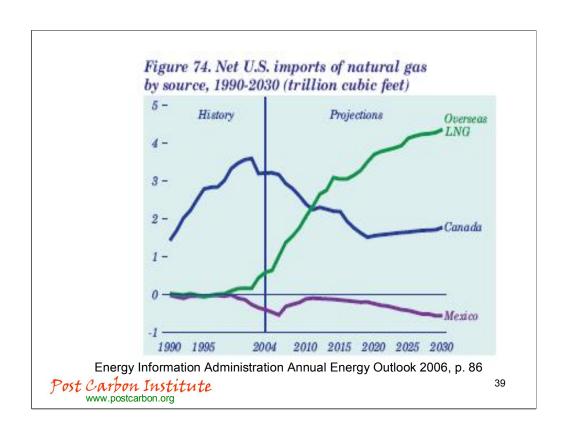
decline



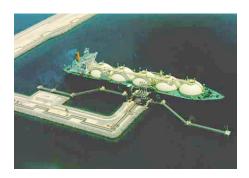








LNG Tankers







http://www.qatargas.com.qa/corporate-profile/images/history-10.jpg

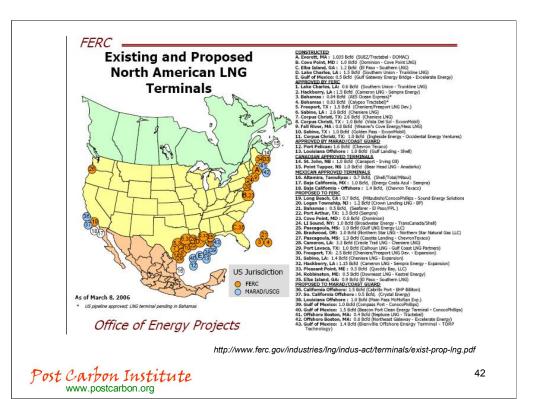
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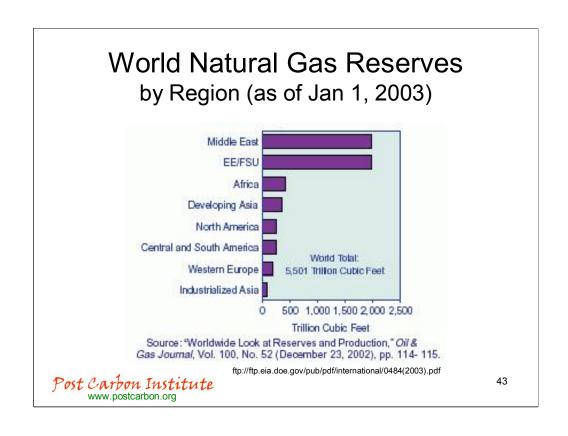
Existing LNG Terminals

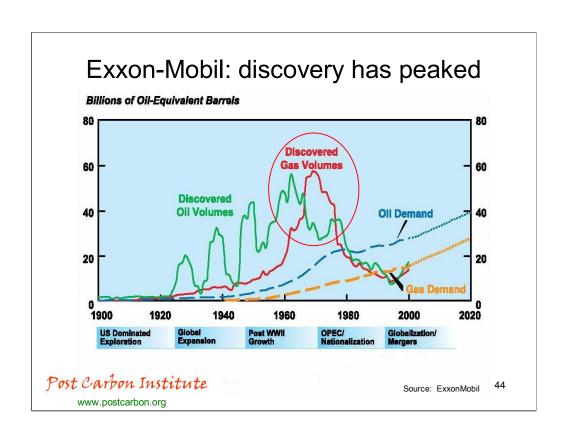


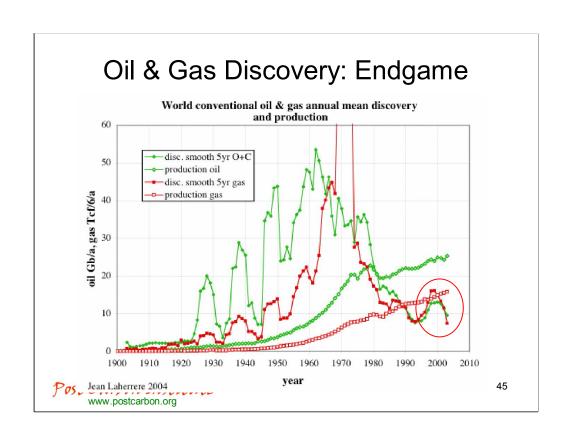
http://www.ferc.gov/industries/lng/indus-act/terminals/exist-term.asp

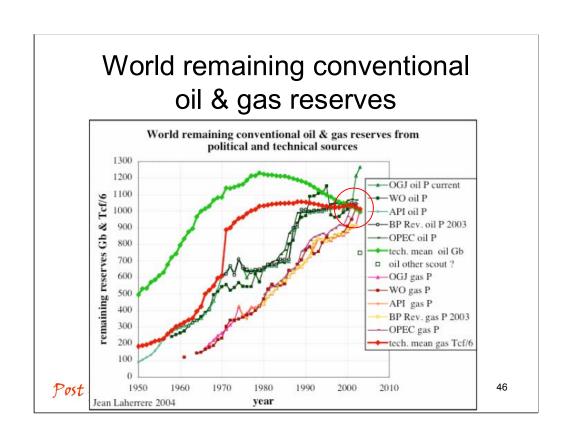


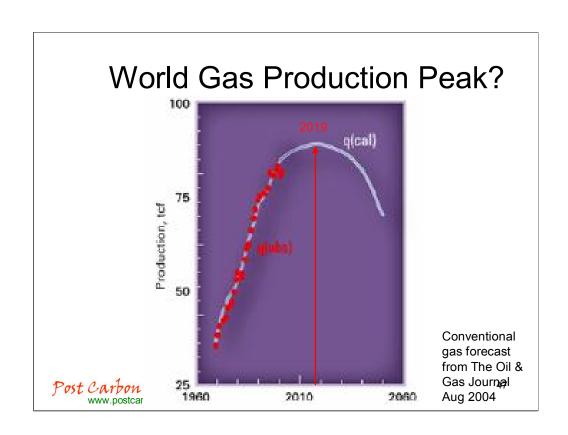










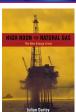


Faith or Wisdom?

- DOE: don't worry we've got our eye on the situation – please keep consuming
- If the energy realists are right, then we shall have to reduce demand
- Planned energy reduction is wiser than unplanned reduction
- It will make producing the substitutes in sufficient quantity much more likely
- · And give us a better chance of a long term future









For interviews about oil & gas peak www.globalpublicmedia.com

High Noon for Natural Gas The New Energy Crisis by Julian Darley

Available from store.postcarbon.org

Relocalize Now! Preparing for Climate Change & the End of Cheap Oil

by Julian Darley, David Room, Celine Rich & Richard Heinberg Spring 2006 from New Society Publishers

Julian Darley julian@postcarbon.org
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